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Remarks/Arguments

On page 2 of the Action, claims 5, 6, and 9 were objected to because of the informalities.

In reply thereto, applicant has amended the claims to correct the informalities.

On page 3 of the Action, claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-14, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pickles et al.

In reply thereto, applicant has amended the claims to define applicant's invention more clearly over the prior art of record.

As clearly defined in the amended claims, applicant's invention comprises a pair of upper and lower surface boards and a frame body that supports the pair of surface boards on upper and lower sides thereof and has at least one end that has a plurality of guiding slopes on each of upper and lower edges thereof for guiding a plurality of terminals of a mating connector toward the connection pads.

As described in the specification, page 15, line 29 et sq., when a pair of the transmission circuits are opposed to each other with a layer of air or material between them, excellent electrical characteristics are obtained.

With respect to the prior art, Pickles et al. disclose an electrical connector having leading caps, which comprising

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a front half 2, a back half 3, a plurality of circuit boards 4, and a plurality of leading caps 10.

However, Pickles et al. neither disclose nor suggest any transmission board comprising a pair of upper and lower surface boards and a frame body that supports the pair of surface boards on upper and lower sides thereof and has a plugging end that has a plurality of guiding slopes on each of upper and lower edges thereof.

In fact, as apparent from Fig. 4., the circuit board 4 of Pickles et al. is not composed of a pair of surface boards but only one circuit board.

In addition, as apparent from Figs. 1 and 4, the leading cap 10 has only one continuous inclined face 13 on each of the edges. By contrast, applicant's plugging end has a plurality of guiding slopes (33A, 33B) on each of upper and lower edges thereof. See Figs. 1 and 3(B) and 3(C).

For these reasons, it is submitted that applicant's invention as recited in the amended claims is patentable over Pickles.

On page 5 of the Action, claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable Pickles et al. in view of Lemke et al.

Lemke et al. teach that the desired differential impedance Z depends on the system impedance and may be 100 ohms or some other value.

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However, Pickles et al. and Lemke et al., considered either individually or jointly, neither disclose nor suggest any transmission board as stated above with reference to the amended claims and, therefore, claim 3 is patentable over Pickles et al. in view of Lemke et al.

The other references cited on Form 892 do not appear to be any more pertinent with respect to the amended claims.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that this application be reconsidered, claims 1-7, 9-14, and 20 allowed, and the case passed to issue.

A change of correspondence address is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
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